THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The existing process for issue of import permits is transparent.

Research projects for agricultural productivity

3120. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed to implement any new research project for increasing agricultural productivity under Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated for the project, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department proposes to undertake some new initiatives in the Tenth Five Year Plan and funds are also earmarked subject to the approval from the Planning Commission. However, the Department does not allocate funds State-wise. The details of these new initiatives are as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

i.	Impact of climate change on Agricultural Productivity	10.00
ii.	Network Project on Organic Farming	5.00
iii.	Network on Transgenics	40.00
iv.	National Bureau of Indian Veterinary The Culture	15.00
v.	Network on Biosystematics of Insects	15.00
vi	NRC for Agricultural Extension	15.00

(c) does not arise.

Boosting milk yield

3121 . SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, as announced by Australian Scientists

who have completed a three years project in India, the protein food can boost milk yield in Indian cows; and

(b) if so, when India's National Dairy Development Board would be implementing the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Pilot Plant for producing 500 MT of by-pass protein feed per month has been set up at Itola in Baroda District of Gujarat State.

Bossting agricultural exports

3122. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision for removal of restriction on agricultural exports, to boost country's agricultural exports; and

(b) if so, the detail thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) (Government has removed restrictions on farm sector for export of wheat and wheat products, grain and flour of barley, maize, bajra, ragi, jwar (excluding hybrid jowar grown as Kharif crop) butter; and on all types of pulses, lentils, grame and flour made therefrom with effect from March, 2002. Registration requirement for export on non-basmati rice and the requirement of export of pulses in package of 5 kg. have also been removed.

Further, the restictions on exports of cashew to Russia, groundnut oil in 5 kg. packs and above; and agricultural seeds except cashew, jute and onion, have also been lifted with effect from 31.3.2002. The registration requirement on export of butter and wheat and wheat products have also been removed with effect from 31.3.2002.

Subsidising urea for drought affected States

3123. SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to subsidise Urea, for the